

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 HEW-04
/090 W
-----098850 192024Z /63

R 190935Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4248
INFO /AMEMBASSY LONDON 2830
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, NO
SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN REQUEST TO USG TO POSTPONE ILO DECISION

REFS: (A) OSLO 3678 (B) OTTAWA 7420 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING AUG 15 DEMARCHE TO DCM BY MFA STATE
SECRETARY STOLTENBERG ON A ONE-YEAR POSTPONEMENT OF U.S.
DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO (REFTEL A) AND SIMILAR PITCH
FROM LO TO LABATT SAME DAY, LO INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
SANDEGREN GAVE LABATT BACKGROUND ON OTTAWA MEETING AUG 13-14
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(REFTEL B) CALLED BY ILO GOVERNING BODY CHAIRMAN JOE MORRIS.
REQUEST TO USG TO POSTPONE ILO DECISION BEYOND DATE OF
END OF TWO-YEAR NOTICE PERIOD BASED ON ADVISORY OPINION OF
ILO LEGAL COUNSEL TO MORRIS THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE UNDER
ILO CONSTITUTION, ACCORDING TO SANDEGREN. SANDEGREN ALSO
REPORTED THAT BRITISH TUC HAD APPROACHED LO WITH IDEA THAT
INITIATIVE TO GET COMPROMISE AT ILO ACCEPTABLE TO U.S. AND

ARABS, BLOC COUNTRIES AND G-77 BE STARTED AT ONCE.
GOVERNMENTS, TRADE UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS WOULD BE INVOLVED
IN THIS EFFORT. TUC HAS, SANDEGREN SAYS, ALREADY BROACHED
IDEA WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING AUG 15 DEMARCHE TO DCM BY MFA STATE SECRETARY STOLTENBERG ON ONE-YEAR POSTPONEMENT OF U.S. DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO, AND SIMILAR PITCH BY LO INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY SANDEGREN SAME DAY, SANDEGREN GAVE LABATT BACKGROUND ON OTTAWA MEETING WEEKEND OF AUG 13-14 CALLED BY ILO GB CHAIRMAN JOE MORRIS OF CANADA, WHICH SANDEGREN ATTENDED. ACCORDING TO LO REPORT, MEETING INCLUDED MORRIS, SANDEGREN, JOHN HARKER, CANADIAN LABOR CONFERENCE (CLC) INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY; GERT MUHR, DBG (GERMANY); SVEND BACKE VOGNBJERG, NORDIC TRADE UNION COUNCIL; JOHNY VAN DER VEKEN, ICFTU; AND HERBERT MEIER, AUSTRIAN OEGB. BRITISH TUC WAS INVITED BUT DID NOT ATTEND. CONSENSUS OF MEETING REPORTED IN DOCUMENT CONTAINED REFTEL B. SANDEGREN TOLD LABATT ADDITIONALLY THAT ILO LEGAL COUNSEL HAD DEVELOPED A FORMULA UNDER THE ILO CONSTITUTION FOR DELAY OF WITHDRAWAL AT MORRIS' REQUEST AND ON AN INFORMAL BASIS, AND THAT MORRIS WANTED FACT OF ILO COUNSEL'S WORK HELD CLOSELY. HE NOTED THAT NO FORMULA FOR DELAYING WITHDRAWAL HAS BEEN TESTED BEFORE, AND THAT ILO LAWYERS OFFERED ONLY AN ADVISORY OPINION THAT THE IDEA WAS CONSTITUTIONALLY VALID.

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3. THOUGH UNABLE TO ATTEND OTTAWA MEETING, THE BRITISH TUC SUPPORTS MORRIS' INITIATIVE, ACCORDING TO SANDEGREN, AND HAS ALSO APPROACHED THE LO AND OTHER GROUPS ATTENDING THE MEETING WITH A PLAN TO LAUNCH AT ONCE AN INTENSIVE EFFORT TO GET A COMPROMISE SOLUTION TO ILO PROBLEM THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO U.S., ARABS, BLOC COUNTRIES AND G-77. THE TUC PLAN WOULD INVOLVE A ROUND OF CONTACTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT, WORKER AND EMPLOYER DELEGATIONS OF THE ILO. THE TUC HAS, ACCORDING TO SANDEGREN, ALREADY APPROACHED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, AND HOPES THAT HMG WILL PREVAIL ON USG AND OTHERS TO JOIN THE EFFORT.

4. LO SUPPORTS THE TUC PLAN AND WILL MAKE A NUMBER OF CONTACTS AMONG WORKER DELEGATIONS, BUT HAS NOT DECIDED AS YET WHETHER OR NOT TO ASK THE GON TO JOIN THE EFFORT.

5. THE NORWEGIAN EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION (NAF) ALSO TOLD LABATT AUG 16 THAT NAF HAS ASKED THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO SUPPORT THE REQUEST TO THE USG FOR ONE-YEAR DELAY IN ITS WITHDRAWAL DECISION.

6. COMMENT: THE LATEST ROUND OF ACTIVITY DEMONSTRATES

THE CONTINUING CONCERN OF THE IMEC TRADE UNION GROUP OVER
THE DETERIORATING SITUATION IN THE ILO, AND OVER THE
POSSIBILITY OF A U.S. WITHDRAWAL. THE GON SERIOUSLY
SHARES THIS CONCERN AND CONTINUES TO CONSIDER ILO PROBLEM
IN THE CONTEXT OF A POSSIBLE BREAKDOWN OF THE UN SPECIALIZED
AGENCIES SYSTEM. BOTH LO AND THE GON ARE WATCHING THE USG
DELIBERATIONS ON WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO VERY CLOSELY; EMBASSY
WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT ABREAST OF ANY SIGNIFICANT
DEVELOPMENTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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